

## The Selection Process

### Who selected AzMERIT?

Arizona law required the Arizona State Board of Education (the Board) to adopt and implement a test to measure student achievement.

The Board followed state procurement processes to select a rigorous, cost efficient, statewide assessment aligned with Arizona's educational priorities, that will measure student learning and inform the State's accountability measures (A-F School Letter Grades, Move on When Reading, Principal and Teacher Evaluations).

### What was the process for the selection of AzMERIT?

In late 2013, the Board issued a Request for Information (RFI) to identify existing assessment options that may meet Arizona's needs. The Board received six responses to the RFI.

On March 6, 2014, the Board adopted a statement of [values](#) that was used as the basis for the requirements in the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the selection of the new statewide assessment. Feedback from parents, educators, and business and community leaders was incorporated into the statement of values.

On June 6, 2014, the RFP for the new statewide assessment was released. Six responses were received on July 25, 2014.

As required by law, an independent evaluation team of Arizona education stakeholders with knowledge and expertise in the area of student assessment was formed. The evaluation committee was facilitated by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) procurement office. The evaluation committee members were not employees of the State, but rather employees of local schools or organizations, who included a charter school representative, a superintendent, a director of research and evaluation, a special education director, an assistant superintendent for academic services, a chief information officer, and a community member.

The evaluation committee reviewed all proposals and scored them based on how well each met the requirements listed in the RFP. The evaluation committee unanimously recommended American Institutes of Research (AIR) to ADE's Chief Procurement Officer and the Board. On November 3, 2014 the Board selected AIR to provide AzMERIT.

### When will AzMERIT be in place?

Students will take AzMERIT beginning in spring 2015.

